

A PREACHER'S STORY.

How Good Mother Wickham Received the New Circuit Rider.

A number of young clergymen, all graduates of the Methodist Theological Seminary at Evanston, met down town the other day and were relating to each other anecdotes of their experience in the various fields to which they had been assigned. "My most amusing experience," said one young brother, "was in a little village in Iowa where the conference sent me to begin my ministerial work. My circuit included three or four little villages and as many school-houses, and I tried to preach a sermon at each place once every two weeks. In the village of Edgewood I met a good old lady named Mrs. Wickham, an emigrant from the Green Mountains and one of the pillars of the church. I had just been married before going on the circuit, and the next day after our arrival in Edgewood Mrs. Wickham sent for my wife and myself to come to her house.

"In the afternoon we went and were warmly greeted by the old lady. 'I am glad you've come, Brother L., and brought your wife,' said she. 'I've been waitin' and waitin' you don't know how anxiously ever since Brother Jones went away, which is high up in three months, and there hasn't been a preacher in this house since. I've got some little things to do that I've been a-savin' till the minister come, and now you've brought Sister L. Let's get them off'n our hands and then we can sit down and have a good, long talk.'

"I confess I was a little puzzled at this reception, not knowing exactly what the people on my circuit had been in the habit of saying up to the minister to do. However, I was not long left in the dark. The old lady disappeared into the kitchen and soon called for us to follow. We did so, and found the room littered with two or three old bedsteads that had been taken to pieces and spread about the floor. In the middle of the floor stood Mrs. Wickham, with a big kettle of boiling water at her side.

"Now, Sister L., just you take this here apron of mine, or you'll spoil your dress," she said to my wife. "The pesky bugs have been so bad in these bedsteads that I have sometimes felt just as if I couldn't wait till you come to give 'em a good scalding."

"This, then, was part of the circuit rider's duties in Iowa, thought I, but the old lady seemed to take it so entirely as a matter of course that the preacher should help her with her work that I couldn't well refuse. My wife laughingly put on the apron and went to work and I took off my coat and cuffs and took hold, too. It was a long job and after we had got the bedsteads thoroughly scalded they had to be carried up-stairs, set up, and 'corded,' for they were the old fashioned kind of bedsteads in which ropes did duty in lieu of springs or slats. But this did not end the work, for on coming down-stairs the old lady remarked that the stove was a little warm, yet, but that if I was careful I could black it without burning my hands. This was a little too much, and I was about to object, but my wife whispered to me that we might as well make a day of it. So we went at that stove and polished it till you could see your face in it, and then helped the old lady clean up the kitchen. By that time the sun was down, and our hostess kindly permitted us to withdraw. Did we stay to supper? Why, bless you, the good soul in her joy at getting her house cleaned up forgot to say any thing about supper. We were glad enough to get home without being asked to dig up the potatoes or build a calf pen. But ever since that day my wife and I have always had a prior engagement when asked to visit Mrs. Wickham."—Chicago Tribune.

A LONG-HEADED BUILDER.

How He Proposed to Make His Operations Come Out Even.

A number of mechanics were congregated about the stove of a certain rural store that sells every thing, from whisky to shoe-strings.

"How much are you charging a day, now?" asked Mr. Buttnerut of a carpenter.

"Three dollars," replied the carpenter.

"If you will work for a dollar a day," said Mr. Buttnerut, "I shall be happy to engage you."

The carpenter did not reply in words, but opened one eye very wide, that Mr. Buttnerut might observe and study any thing of an emerald tone contained therein.

"What are you getting per day at present?" asked Mr. Buttnerut of a plumber who was smoking a corn-cob pipe, that couldn't freeze and burst on him.

"Four dollars!" responded the plumber, as he gave the pipe-stem a faucet twist, to screw it more firmly into the bowl.

"I will give you one dollar and thirty-three cents per diem," said Mr. Buttnerut.

"I must decline," replied the plumber. "I plumb for the health of my clients, never for my own. If I accepted your rates, I should certainly burst, like a four-dollar zinc boiler."

Mr. Buttnerut then turned to a stone mason.

"What wages are you asking?"

"Three dollars per day."

"I will give you one."

"I could not work for that figure if you furnished the cement and every thing else. It would pay me better to stay at home and lie on the Persian couch," replied the stone mason.

Mr. Buttnerut left in despair, and went to a lumber-dealer, a brick man, and several others trading in building materials, and offered them all one-third of the price asked.

They each and all refused; and, when one of them asked him to explain his nickel-plated, full-jeweled assurance, he replied:

"I am going to build a ten-thousand-dollar house."

"I see," said the dealer, brightening up a little; "an excellent idea."

"And when my ten-thousand-dollar house is built, it will have cost fifty thousand dollars."

"And then?" asked the dealer in building materials.

HOME AND FARM.

—If mice are troublesome they can often be easily gotten rid of by soaking wheat in a good solution of arsenic and burying it at the roots of trees where the mice will be likely to find it.—Western Plowman.

A CHICAGO ROMANCE.

Mr. Darnelle Wins a Lovely Girl and Makes a Reasonable Request.

"It is so sudden, Mr. Darnelle," "I know it is," responded the young man, gently.

He stood before her, with his weight resting easily on one foot, his left elbow on the mantel-piece, his right arm behind him, and his whole attitude one of careless, unstudied ease and grace acquired only by long and patient practice.

"I know it is," he repeated. "Measured by ordinary standards and by the cold conventionalities of society, it is indeed sudden. We have known each other only twenty-four hours. Until twenty-five minutes after eight o'clock last night neither of us had ever heard of the other. Yet with the heart one day is as a hundred years. Could we have known one another better, darling," he went on, with a tremor in his cultivated B flat baritone voice, "if we had attended the theater, the concert, the church, and the oyster parlor together for a dozen seasons? Does not your heart beat responsive to mine?"

"I will not pretend to deny, Mr. Darnelle," replied the young lady, with a rich blush mantling her cheek and brow, "that your avowal moves me strangely."

"I knew it—I felt it," he responded, eagerly. "Love is not the slow, vegetable growth of years. It does not move in its course with the measured, leisurely step of a man working by the day. It springs up like a flash—like an electric flash. It takes instant possession. It does not need to be jerked in, as it were. It needs not the agonizing coaxing of a young man's first chin-whiskers, my darling. It is here! You will forgive my presumption, will you not, and speak the words that tremble on your lips—the words that will fill my cup of joy to overflowing?"

The evening had passed like a beautiful dream. Mr. Darnelle, admonished by the clock that it was time to go, had risen reluctantly to his feet and stood holding the hand of his lovely betrothed.

"My love," he said, in eager, passionate accents, "now that you have blessed my life with a measureless, ineffable joy and made all my future radiant with golden hope, you will not think I am asking too much if I plead for just one favor?"

"What is it?" shyly responded the lovely maiden.

"Please tell me your first name,"—Chicago Tribune.

How to Succeed in Life.

Those who wish to succeed must begin by putting the idea of "luck" behind them. If they will inquire into the causes of the achievements of the successful men about them, they will find that in nearly all cases they fairly rose by their shrewdness, energy and thrift. If they will similarly inquire into the cause of those unsuccessful men about them who are commonly called "unlucky," being unsuccessful, they will almost invariably find it to be sloth, extravagance or drink, or other folly. It will take no one long to discover why the "unlucky" man has not succeeded; he may and will, no doubt, ascribe it to want of "luck," but others who know his weakness of character will ascribe it to a more tangible cause. The man of fair intelligence, of genuine courage, ready to take hard knocks, to push toward the foremost place, to watch for and seize the opportunity, to work steadily at his task, to be frugal, to be economical, and to be honest, need not vainly wish for "luck." Such a man will always have "luck," for whatever there is of it lies in intelligence, endeavor and integrity.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Raising Trotting Horses.

Taking it all in all, the trotter will grow just as well with a good straw bed in a log hut as in a bed of moss in a palace barn, and the common farmer who, by long experience, has learned to attend to all the little wants that go to make up the every-day life of the colt, keep both ends growing equally and bring him up to the full size and form that nature designed, has, in the long run, a little the advantage over the millionaire, who has only the knowledge of theory, without the practical experience. The common farmer is just beginning to realize the possibilities for profit in raising trotting-bred horses. A little time spent during the long winter evening studying the recorded facts and history of the trotter, and an intelligent use made of these facts by keeping the lines that have uniformly produced size, style, good color and kind, intelligent disposition, united with speed, will just as surely bring a profitable return as planting a field of corn.—Horseman.

Where to Find Alligators.

The best place to find alligators is in brackish water, half fresh and half salt. They seem to thrive in such element better than in either purely fresh or purely salt water and are unusually prolific there. Men who hunt them take a small boat on a dark night and move quietly along their haunts. With a lantern they "shine their eyes" as a hunter does a wild animal, and when within a few feet of them fire a ball in to the eye, and then with a sharp hook fastened to a long pole catch him. If only partially killed the hunter then begins. The water is lashed into a foam and the boat dragged along sometimes a mile. Often a second shot is necessary to dispatch a big one.

While a Tiffin (O) resident was sleeping in a railroad station near there the telegraph operator painted stripes on his face with a paint used for mark boxes. The paint contained a powerful caustic, and ate into the unfortunate man's face, disfiguring him in a horrible manner.

IN REALMS OF ROYALTY.

WILLIAM, King of the Netherlands, is the richest monarch in the world.

QUEEN VICTORIA still uses the yacht *Elm* which was built for her in 1843. The Crown Prince of Greece dislikes publicity, and often travels in third class railway coaches.

DOM LUIS I., King of Portugal, converses freely in English, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, German and Swedish. The master of the Emperor Frederick, of which the corner-stone has just been laid at Potsdam, will be a reproduction of the Sepulcher Church at Jerusalem.

LEOPOLD, King of the Belgians, has never known a death warrant, and although the statute has never been repealed, capital punishment is practically abolished in Belgium.

QUEEN KAPOULANI's gold watch, presented by his Majesty, the King of Hawaii, was recently stolen by an adroit native thief. When recovered the outer case, bearing the inscription of presentation, was missing.

The present German Emperor is not the first Frederick III. of Germany. During the period from 1440 to 1493 Frederick III., surnamed "the Pacific," a member of the House of Hapsburg, was Emperor of the old German Empire.

The new Empress of Germany is the eldest daughter of Queen Victoria, of England. Bismarck is said to stand in mortal fear of her, but if she is much like her Queen mother he can be quite as much afraid of her.

QUEEN VICTORIA has made sufficient progress in Hindustani to hold short conversations with Mahomed Bakhs and Abdul Kareem, who with the Emperor, and other members of the Indian chaps, always stand behind the royal chair.

ROYAL marriages are evidently infectious. When the royal marriage took place recently at Turin over two hundred couples were married at the same hour, and the force of officials at the municipality had to be increased.

The Czarina, it is stated, often designs and even makes dresses for her younger children, and she is said to have hats to pieces and trims them over according to her own taste. This hobby of her Majesty is a heritage of her economical days as Princess of Denmark.

It is, perhaps, not generally known that it is absolutely essential that every maid of honor at the English court should be a good horsewoman and a correct reader of music at sight.

The favorite pursuit of the Princess Beatrice are riding and trying over new music in the form of duets; and no "maid" is chosen who is not an adept in both arts.

The royal family together, it is found that the present sovereign, the good Queen Victoria, with her aunts and her numerous progeny, has cost the British Nation £25,000,000, or in the neighborhood of \$75,000,000, in the course of her reign.

The national life, closing with the present administration, the American people have paid their Presidents as salaries \$2,500,000.

ALFONSO XIII., the infant King of Spain, is said to be a very healthy child, but is not a very healthy man. Until he is seven he will be left entirely in the hands of women, but from the time he reaches that age until he is sixteen he will have a tutor and a governess. At sixteen he will be presented to the Cortes, and the Regent will place the reins of Government in his hands.

The imperial crown of all the Russias is the most coveted by a sovereign. It is in the form of a Bishop's mitre and carries on its crest a cross composed of five of the most beautiful diamonds ever cut supporting the imperial eagle of the world. Eleven great diamonds in a foliated arch rising from the front and back of the crown support this cross and ruby, and on either side is a hoop of thirty-eight pearls, than which there are no handsomer known.

QUEER GOINGS-ON.

The Tappan Indians, in South America, say the devil assumes the form of a fly.

A Wisconsin man is said to have married his wife in-law one day recently.

An Indiana man claims to have carried an egg in his pocket until the chicken was hatched.

A reporter at Manchester, Eng., being unable to find any startling news attempted suicide and wrote a column about it.

This proper thing nowadays are minuscule daggers and swords of silver, used in the place of ordinary knives and forks.

A Pittsfield bridegroom, in his exuberant nervousness at the altar, handed out a key-ring to the clergyman to do the binding up with.

The latest addition to Withlacoochee, Fla., fame is a hen which hatched and raised to the size of a partridge sixteen chicks from fifteen eggs.

At Little Rock, the latest fad is "boiled-chestnut" parties, at which the girl that eats a pint of chestnuts the quickest gets a handsome souvenir.

ROBERT BLOC, a French boy of fourteen, died of a fever by a severe cold, because his father broke a plaster cast of Venus with which he was in love.

A herd of swine in Marion County, Cal., got drunk eating grape pomace and then began fighting; one of them drove so badly injured that it was necessary to kill it.

A farmer living near Wapakoneta, O., placed \$475 in a stove for safe-keeping. Some one built a fire in the stove while he was away from home, and the next morning he found his money safe and sound.

While a wedding party was waiting for a quartet to perform the ceremony at Alpha, Ga., the groom excused himself and fled. The bride proposed to the groomsmen and they were married within an hour.

A DEMURE-LOOKING servant girl in Brooklyn, who shed tears because she killed a spider, poisoned thirteen dogs and twenty-two cats, and said she would do so if she could up to the milkman when accidentally discovered.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, November 12, 1888.

CATTLE—Native Steers..... \$ 3.40 @ 5.75
HOGS—Good to Choice..... 4.00 @ 5.50
PORK—Mess (new)..... 12 @ 1.18 1/2
WHEAT—No. 2 Red Winter..... 1.00 @ 1.10
FLOUR—Patents..... 5.00 @ 5.50
CORN—No. 2..... 60 @ 1.00
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COFFEE—Middling..... 15 @ 1.00
COTTON—Middling..... 15 @ 1.00
SUGAR—Fair to Medium..... 4.50 @ 5.00
HOPS—Common to Select..... 4.00 @ 5.00
SHRUBS—Fair to Choice..... 4.00 @ 5.00
FLOUR—Patents..... 5.00 @ 5.50
WHEAT—No. 2 Red Winter..... 1.00 @ 1.10
FLOUR—Patents..... 5.00 @ 5.50
CORN—No. 2..... 60 @ 1.00
COFFEE—Middling..... 15 @ 1.00
COTTON—Middling..... 15 @ 1.00
SUGAR—Fair to Medium..... 4.50 @ 5.00
HOPS—Common to Select..... 4.00 @ 5.00
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